

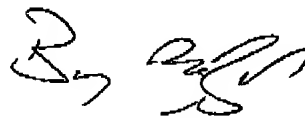
REMARKS

Please enter the foregoing claim amendments into the application. Reference to SEQ ID NOs other than SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:2 have been deleted from the claims to be consistent with the current restriction practice of the United States Patent and Trademark Office with respect to claims reciting nucleic acid molecules or proteins, as explained to applicants' attorney Barry F. McGurl by Examiner Yong D. Pak.

In view of the foregoing claim amendments, applicants respectfully submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Group Art Unit 1652, Examiner Yong D. Pak, at facsimile number 571.273.0935 on the below date.

Date: April 15, 2004

BFM:jlj

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